

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, As defined by the Rare Disease Act of 2002, a rare disease is a disease affecting less than 200,000 people in the United States. With approximately 7,000 diagnosed rare diseases, it is not uncommon to have a rare disease; and,

*Whereas*, Many rare diseases are serious or even life-threatening, and most rare diseases have no treatment; and,

*Whereas*, Rare diseases are genetic; about half of the individuals affected by rare diseases in the United States are children; and,

*Whereas*, People with rare diseases face many challenges: difficulty in obtaining a timely, accurate diagnosis, limited treatment options, difficulty in finding physicians or treatment centers, expensive treatments, reimbursement issues with private insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid, and a sense of isolation and hopelessness; and,

*Whereas*, Rare disorders affect the entire family of a patient, and caregivers endure ongoing stress and isolation while managing the medical and financial issues that arise; and,

*Whereas*, On February 24-25, 2017, South Dakota will gather scientists, health care professionals, and families to educate and raise awareness of how rare diseases affect our community:

*Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 28, 2017, as

## ***RARE DISEASE DAY***

in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this First Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seventeen.

*Dennis Daugaard*  
Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

*Shantel Krebs*  
Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State